

## **This Week in 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division History**

**27 May- 2 June**

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(for complete text, see 4ID website <http://www.hood.army.mil/4ID/>)

### **WWI**

**1918** 8<sup>th</sup> Brigade units moved to Samer, France for intensive training under British instructors of the 16 British Infantry Division. The men were quartered in the little villages that were throughout the training area. Division Artillery Brigade was sent to Camp de Souge near Bordeaux to begin learning the intricacies of the French “75’s”.

### **WWII**

**1944** With the Division now gathered at their four posts of embarkation on the English coast for D-Day, briefings were intensified. Sand tables were updated with the latest intelligence reports and were studied Division-wide. The 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division was designated as Task Force U and Soldiers in the Division were finally told under great security their exact mission—they were to be the lead assault force on a Normandy Beach designated as Utah Beach. On 2 June 1944 they were loaded onto ships in preparation for sailing on 3 June.

### **Vietnam**

**1967** The Division continued Operation Francis Marion. The heavy losses inflicted by 4ID units over the previous two weeks culminating in one last major battle on 28 May forced the North Vietnamese Army to retreat back across the Cambodian border.

**1968** Operation Mathews continued in northwestern Kontum Province. The AO was designated as CHEROKEE. 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade joined 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade and two brigades from the 101<sup>st</sup> within the AO. 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade’s mission was to secure Objective DIGGS (Hill 900 and Hill 990). During this mission the command aircraft of 3-12 Inf received enemy fire and made a forced landing south of Objective DIGGS with no injuries. 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade joined the fight on 28 May to protect DAK PEK. On 1 June 1-22 Inf assaulted to secure Hill 905.

**1969** Enemy forces were building in the western part of Kontum Province and activity increased in the Ben Het area as enemy forces attempted to cut the resupply routes of the Special Forces Camp. Dak To and Ben Het were experiencing daily attacks of rockets, mortars, and small arms fire. The Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) assumed responsibility for security in the Dak To area. 4ID’s brigades continued to provide highway security in Kontum, and Pleiku Provinces.

**1970** Operations began north of Camp Radcliff in Binh Dinh Province against suspected NVA infiltration. 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade initiated operations in an area known as VC Valley (Dak

Pihao Valley) against the 95B Regiment. VC Valley was so named for its use as a VC staging area. It was located 35 km WSW of Camp Radcliff.

**OIF** B'aath Party elements remained strong throughout the entire Division AO. The Division was experiencing hit and run attacks in many of the towns within the AO including Balad, Baqubah, Tikrit, and Samarra. Division Soldiers were also having to cope with the environmental conditions—heat and blowing dust. Temperatures were rapidly rising in Iraq.